Targets for employment

†2951. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the targets set for providing employment during the Eighth Five Year Plan period, State-wise;

(b) the number of persons who were actually provided with employment;

(c) the reasons for not achieving the expected targets; and

(d) the number of persons whose names are registered with the State Employment Exchanges as on date and the comparative data of the same during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) As per the 8th Plan document of the Planning Commission, an average employment growth of around 2.6. to 2.8% per annum was aimed at for the 10 years period with a view to bring the economy to a near full employment situation by 2002. As against this, the estimates of realized growth was of the order of 2.3 to 2.4% during 1978-94. The shortfall was mainly due to the economy not growing at the desired pace. State-wise projections are not made in the Plan document.

(d) The number of job-seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, registered with the Employment Exchanges at the end of 1998, 1999 and 2000 was of the order of 400.9, 403.7 and 413.4 lakh respectively.

Plight of child labour

2952. SHRI ABANI ROY:
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "concern over plight of child labourers" as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 11th January, 2001;

(b) if so, whether the National Human Rights Commission has been entrusted with the task of review the plight of child labour in the country;

(c) if so, whether the task of identifying child labourers has been entrusted by Government to some other private sector organisations also; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) Government has noted the contents of the news-items captioned, "Concern over plight of child labourers" published in the "Hindustan Times" dated 11th January, 2001. The National Human Rights Commission while taking *suo moto* cognizance of the press clipping constituted a Committee to examine every aspect of the employment of child labour in the lock industry in Aligarh.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Special cells and employment exchanges for physically handicapped

2953. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the grants-in-aid given to Andhra Pradesh during the last three years for setting up or maintenance of special cells in normal Employment Exchanges or Special Employment Exchanges for physically challenged persons, year-wise, and the number of Special Cells or Exchanges set up in the State;

(b) whether Government propose to increase their number in the State; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?